

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 296908

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DRAFTED BY DOD/ODASD(SP):MR. VADA:MEM

APPROVED BY EUR/RPM: GBHELMAN

EUR/RPM:JHHAWES

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TO USMISSION NATO

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SY, NATO

SUBJECT: ATOMAL CLASSIFICATION GUIDE

1. BY MEMORANDUM DATED JANUARY 10, 1975, SUBJECT: QTE  
ATOMAL CLASSIFICATION GUIDE, UNQTE TO MR. JOHN ABIDIAN,  
DIRECTOR, NATO OFFICE OF SECURITY, THROUGH MR. JAMES SOLDOW,  
DIRECTOR, ADMINISTRATION, PERSONNEL AND SECURITY, US  
MISSION TO NATO, MR. STREATOR OF EUR/RPM, DEPARTMENT OF  
STATE, EXPRESSED WASHINGTON'S CONCLUSION THAT BASED ON A  
COMPARISON OF THE RECENTLY ISSUED AEC-DOD NUCLEAR WEAPONS  
CLASSIFICATION GUIDE AND THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT'S  
PROPOSED REVISION OF THE NATO GUIDE (ANNEX III TO C-M (68)  
41(REVISED) MADE BY DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE REPRESENTATIVES  
AND REPRESENTATIVES FROM THE ENERGY RESEARCH AND  
DEVELOPMENT AGENCY (FORMERLY THE ATOMIC ENERGY  
COMMISSION), THAT NO CHANGE TO THE PROPOSED NATO GUIDE IS  
WARRANTED. HE REQUESTED THAT THE INTERNATIONAL MILITARY  
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PAGE 02 STATE 296908

STAFF AND SHAPE BE INFORMED OF THIS REVIEW.

2. MR. JOHN ABIDIAN, DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF NATO SECURITY, IN A MEMORANDUM, NOS(75)155, DATED FEBRUARY 20, 1975, SUBJECT: QTE ATOMAL CLASSIFICATION GUIDE UNQTE (CLASSIFIED NATO CONFIDENTIAL), ENCLOSED A MEMORANDUM FROM THE DIRECTOR,

INTERNATIONAL MILITARY STAFF, IMSM-94-75, DATED FEBRUARY 17, 1975, TRANSMITTING A LETTER FROM THE CHIEF OF STAFF, SHAPE, 3588/17-11, DATED FEBRUARY 10, IN WHICH SHAPE IDENTIFIED EACH TOPIC IN THE PROPOSED REVISION OF THE NATO CLASSIFICATION GUIDE FOR NUCLEAR WEAPONS WHICH IS CONSIDERED TO CONSTITUTE A SIGNIFICANT CHANGE IN THEIR OPINION FROM THE GUIDANCE CONTAINED IN THE PRESENT ANNEX III TO C-M(68)41(REVISED) AND WHICH WOULD CREATE SERIOUS PROBLEMS FOR ALLIED COMMAND EUROPE (ACE). IN OUR OPINION, AS WELL AS THAT OF MR. ABIDIAN, SHAPE'S ENVISIONED OPERATIONAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE DIFFICULTIES ARISE NOT BECAUSE OF CHANGES IN THE NATO CLASSIFICATION GUIDE FOR NUCLEAR WEAPONS, BUT BECAUSE OF SHAPE'S PAST MISINTERPRETATIONS OF THE EXISTING GUIDE (ANNEX III TO C-M(68)41 (REVISED)).

3. WE FEEL SHAPE SHOULD BE TOLD TO IMPLEMENT FULLY THE LATEST GUIDANCE WITHIN THE NEXT SIX (6) MONTHS. WE APPRECIATE THE PERSONNEL CLEARANCE AND DOCUMENT MARKING PROBLEMS SHAPE MAY HAVE AND WE ARE NOT UNSYMPATHETIC TO THE VIEWS EXPRESSED BY SHAPE. HOWEVER, IN LIGHT OF SHAPE'S PAST UNILATERAL INTERPRETATIONS THERE IS NO OTHER COURSE OF ACTION THAT CAN BE TAKEN. REGARDING THE RECLASSIFICATION OF FILES, FILMS, AND DOCUMENTS, IT IS OUR CONSENSUS THERE IS NO NEED TO UNDERTAKE AN EXTENSIVE MARKING PROGRAM. IT WOULD SUFFICE TO MARK SUCH MATERIAL APPROPRIATELY AS IT IS USED.

4. REPRESENTATIVES FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE AND THE ENERGY RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT AGENCY, IN CONJUNCTION WITH A SECURITY VISIT TO NATO AND THE UNITED KINGDOM, ARE ALSO TENTATIVELY PLANNING TO MEET WITH NATO AND SHAPE AUTHORITIES ON JANUARY 29, 1976, TO CLEAR UP ANY OTHER MISUNDERSTANDINGS WITH REGARD TO ATOMAL CLASSIFICATION LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PAGE 03 STATE 296908

THAT MAY EXIST.

5. THE DECISIONS SET FORTH HEREIN HAVE BEEN CONCURRED IN BY THE DEPUTY ASSISTANT TO THE ASSISTANT TO THE SECRETARY (ATOMIC ENERGY), BRIGADIER GENERAL WILLIAM B. MAXON; COLONEL STANLEY J. PARMENTIER, CHIEF, NATO NUCLEAR POLICY DIVISION, EUROPEAN REGION, OASD(ISA); AND MR. JOHN A. GRIFFIN, DIRECTOR, DIVISION OF CLASSIFICATION, UNITED

STATES ENERGY RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT ADMINISTRATION.

6. FYI. WE UNDERSTAND THAT SOME OF THE PROBLEMS IDENTIFIED BY SHAPE WERE DISCUSSED DURING INFORMAL MEETINGS BETWEEN DOD, NATO AND SHAPE IN OCTOBER, AND WE HOPE THAT THE REMAINING PROBLEMS WILL BE RESOLVED DURING THE MEETING ON JANUARY 29. MISSION SHOULD REPORT ON OUTCOME, AND ON WHAT FURTHER STEPS MAY BE REQUIRED. END FYI.

DECONTROL ON RECEIPT.

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